



02/8/06

RCE # 2200

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMP 065/0031

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number	10/601,986
Filing Date	June 23, 2003
First Named Inventor	Billy Joe Ratliff, Jr.
Group Art Unit	1733
Examiner Name	Steven D. Maki
Attorney Docket Number	2003096

EV748468383US

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-identified application.

- NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Patent Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114

a. ☐ Previously submitted

- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to

Deposit Account No. 07-1725.

- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other _____

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- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Nancy T. Krawczyk	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	38,744
Signature		Date:	Feb 6, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: **Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450** or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Lois J. Gould	Signature		Date	February 7, 2006
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